

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY****METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ATTRIBUTE-BASED ADDRESSING OF MESSAGES IN A NETWORKED SYSTEM**

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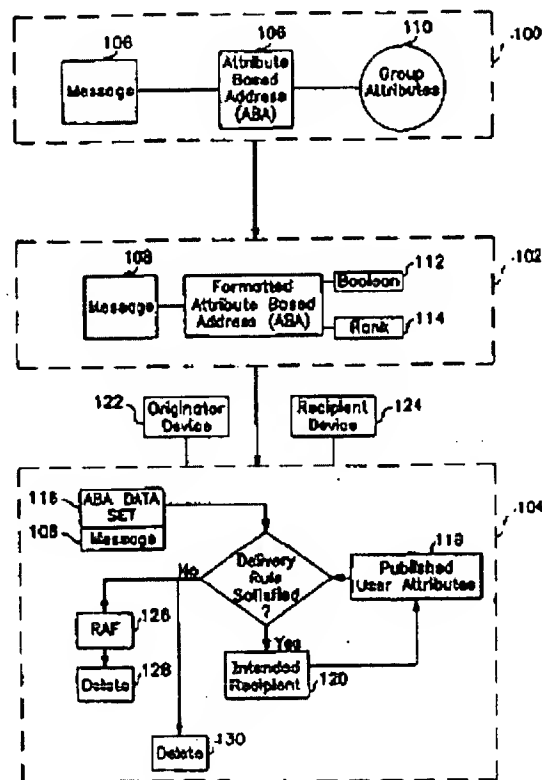
Cited documents:

US5093918  
 US5848396

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**Abstract of WO9939271**

A mechanism (100, 102, 104) is provided for providing attribute-based addressing of messages or packages (108) in a networked system. The mechanism (100, 102, 104) associates an attribute-based address (110) with a message (108). The attribute-based address (106) is based on a set of defined group attributes (110). The mechanism (100, 102, 104) then executes a delivery rule (112, 114) associated with the attribute-based address (106). The message is delivered to one or more recipients (120) having individual attributes which satisfy the delivery rule. The delivery rule (112, 114) can be executed by an originator (122) of the message or by the recipient (124) of the message. The individual attributes associated with the recipient can be changed by the recipient. Particular delivery rule includes a relevance-based ranking function (114).



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